

18. September, 2009, Gödöllő, Hungary

Resolution
of the conference "From the Dokuchaev School to Numerical Soil Classifications"
as part of the series of events organized for the
100th anniversary of the 1st International Conference of Agrogeology

The "Bridging the Centuries: 1909 – 2009" events¹ were organized to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 1st International Conference of Agrogeology and to overview the 100 years of advances in soil sciences, in Hungary, 16-22 September, 2009.

The purpose of the 1st conference was to discuss the different approaches in field and laboratory methods for soil descriptions, in soil classification and in soil mapping. To get to common understanding in methods and language, and to develop to develop common classification and mapping schemes was also an important objective.

The participants of the 2009 conference "From the Dokuchaev School to Numerical Soil Classifications" (as part of the series of the centennial events) concluded that soil science community is still lacking commonly accepted and used standards in soil characterization (field and laboratory) and classification, making communication and data exchange difficult within our soil science and other disciplines.

Therefore the participants of the conference declared that there is a need to develop common standards, methods and terminology in soil observations and investigations and a "universal soil classification system".

It was recommended that a proposal to be addressed to the IUSS Council at the 2010 World Congress of Soil Sciences in Brisbane, Australia.

The further recommendation was that a universal system should be based on the experiences of broadly used classification systems, like the Soil Taxonomy, the Chinese, the Russian the French and other national systems and the experiences of the World Reference Base for Soil Resources, the endorsed correlation system of IUSS, as well as on accumulated soil information and state-of-the-art observation and data processing tools.

The organization of a working group composed of representatives from countries from all continents with currently applied classifications systems, and representatives from relevant organizations was also recommended.

On behalf of the organizing committee and the participants² of the conference

Erika Michéli

Vice-chair of Commission Soil Classification

1. Events:

Central event: Bridging the Centuries: 1909-2009, 16 - 17 September, 2009

Complementary events:

Plenary meeting of the European Soil Bureau Network, 14 - 15 September, 2009

From the Dokuchaev School to numerical soil classifications, 18 September, 2009

IUSS Conference and field excursion on Salinization, 20 - 22 September, 2009

2. There was general agreement to document the resolution.

Individuals participating in the wording of the resolution: M. Golden (USA), L. Montanarella (EC, JRC), R. Arnold (USA), J. Hempel (USA), J. G. Zhang (China), P. Schad (Germany) P. Krasilnikov (Russia), A. McBratney (Australia), A. Hartemink (ISRIC), E. Dobos (Hungary), E. Michéli Hungary)